

Food and Drug Administration Rockville MD 20857

Re: Dutasteride Docket No. 02E-0100

The Honorable James. E. Rogan Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

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P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

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Dear Director Rogan:

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

This is in regard to the application for patent term extension for U.S. Patent No. 5,565,467 filed by GlaxoSmithKline under 35 U.S.C. § 156. The human drug product claimed by the patent is Dutasteride (dutasteride), which was assigned new drug application (NDA) No. 21-319.

A review of the Food and Drug Administration's official records indicates that this product was subject to a regulatory review period before its commercial marketing or use, as required under 35 U.S.C. § 156(a)(4). Our records also indicate that it represents the first permitted commercial marketing or use of the product, as defined under 35 U.S.C. § 156(f)(1), and interpreted by the courts in Glaxo Operations UK Ltd. v. Quigg, 706 F. Supp. 1224 (E.D. Va. 1989), aff'd, 894 F. 2d 392 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

The NDA was approved on November 20, 2001, which makes the submission of the patent term extension application on January 18, 2002, timely within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(1).

Should you conclude that the subject patent is eligible for patent term extension, please advise us accordingly. As required by 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A) we will then determine the applicable regulatory review period, publish the determination in the *Federal Register*, and notify you of our determination.

Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jane A. Axelrad

Associate Director for Policy

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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cc: David J. Levy, Ph.D.

GlaxoSmithKline

Corporate Intellectual Property Department

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